

goes to the tax on imports. He pays this tax in the shape of interest, for the use of the money, and it goes to the vaults of the bank. This bill does not seek to place this State in that attitude towards the people. It is the people's bank; erected on their own securities, and to be conducted for their own especial accommodation.

But if the State has funds to invest, there is no reason against an investment in this bank. Its profits are likely to be as large as those of other monied institutions. It is presumed that it will draw all the custom and support, of loan, stock and deposit, of the agricultural community. A large amount is doubtless already put out on real security, and much on personal security. This in all probability, will be transferred to it, and may increase its profits, as well as means of granting facilities. The nature and safety of the capital, and the security for its loans and issues, must give its notes a circulation equal to that of other banks. And the additional guarantee of the State's pledge, must assist in the establishment of a currency that will be acceptable wherever the credit of Maryland is known. Most of the state banks issue three and four dollars for one paid in, and yet are considered safe. The bill proposes that the bank shall not issue more than two or one of its cash capital paid in, even when the capital is secured by double its amount in real property. And every precaution is taken to prevent an extension beyond these limits.

Its advantages are held out to all, the rich and the poor. It is not designed exclusively for prudent men with productive estates. To be sure, if they have inactive capital, they are invited to avail themselves of its fruits by taking stock. Nor is it intended to open a sea of adventure for men of embarrassed fortunes. These are by no means excluded. They are expected to repair their losses by this means. If their estates be encumbered it must be relieved with the funds taken up at bank; or which is the same thing—the property is estimated with the lien thereon. Thus the bank cannot be damaged. However great or onerous the charges on the estate may be they cannot affect the bank. But admit that embarrassed persons only would resort to the bank, is this a sound objection unless the pressure upon them can reach the institution? Are they never to be relieved? Are the prosperous and happy the objects of our especial care? And are the destitute and oppressed to be denied the use of their own means